

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 02520 281725Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
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R 281358Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6800
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2520

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINR, NI
SUBJECT: SMC MEMBERSHIP CHARGES

REF: (A) LAGOS 2394, (B) LAGOS 422, (C) 77 LAGOS 14577

1. ACCORDING TO FEBRUARY 28 PRESS REPORTS, BRIGADIER DUNCAN N. BALI, FIRST DIVISION COMMANDER, AND COMMANDER CHIJIJOKE KAJA, DIRECTOR OF NAVY ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, HAVE BEEN SWORN IN AS NEW MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (SMC) BY GENERAL OBASANJO. DAILY TIMES REPORTS THAT THEY REPLACE MAJOR GENERAL I. A. AKINRINADE, NOW ON AN OVERSEAS COURSE, AND COMMANDER O. E. UKIWE, GOVERNOR OF NIGER STATE. (NOTE: OUR FILES AND PREVIOUS REPORTS GIVE BALI'S FIRST NAME AS DUNKAT Y.)
 2. NAVAL COMMANDER KAJA WAS BORN ON [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 05 DEC 2014] IN AKOLI IMENYI IN THE FORMER EAST CENTRAL STATE. HE IS AN IBO.
 3. KAJA HAS HAD EXTENSIVE TRAINING EXPERIENCE WITH THE BRITISH ROYAL NAVY. HE SERVED AS A MIDSHIPMAN WITH THE RN IN THE FAR EAST IN 1964-65. AFTER ATTENDING
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- THE ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE (DARMOUTH) IN 1965-66, HE STUDIED AT THE ROYAL NAVAL ENGINEERING COLLEGE, OBTAINING A B.S. IN ELEGPRICAL ENGINEERING IN 1970.
4. KAJA ATTENDED A NAVAL ORDNANCE MANAGEMENT COURSE IN THE U.S. IN 1972 AND WAS DESCRIBED AS AN 'OUTSTANDING STUDENT.' HE ALSO VISITED NORFOLK BRIEFLY IN 1976 AS AN

EXERCISE OBSERVER.

5. KAJA IS MARRIED. HE IS A PROTESTANT.

6. BIO DATA ON BELI FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

7. COMMENT: WE ASSUME ON THE BASIS OF TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT BRIGADIER ARMAH, THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE NIGERIAN DEFENCE ACADEMY, HAS NOT BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SMC AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL A.

8. BY REPLACING UKIWE, KAJA BECOMES THE TOKEN IBO AND MAINTAINS THE PATTERN OF HAVING TWO NAVY OFFICER ON THE SMC. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

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